



FALL 2005

# LYME ART ASSOCIATION News & Events

90 LYME STREET • OLD LYME, CONNECTICUT 06371

## Special Exhibition Celebrates Charles A. Platt - Artist and Architect Of The Historic Lyme Art Association Gallery

The Lyme Art Association will present a special exhibition from October 28th through January 14th entitled *A Place for Art* celebrating the life and works of Charles A. Platt, artist and architect of the LAA Gallery which opened in 1921.

Platt also designed the Freer Gallery in Washington, DC and The Lyman Allyn Museum in New London. The exhibition will include a special catalog and present paintings, etchings and memorabilia of Platt's work on loan from museums and private collections.

"The Etcher," a major oil painting by Platt, will be a highlight of the exhibition. "This canvas," states Jeanne Ledoux-Stewart, curator of the exhibition, "was included in the Paris Salon of 1895. Although, it was Platt's first attempt at the figure in oil, it is considered one of his masterpieces."



*Platt's painting "The Etcher" is a highlight of the exhibition. First exhibited in the Paris Salon of 1895, it is one of more than 30 Platt works on loan from museums and private collections.*

For the LAA building site, Florence Griswold sold the artists land next to her Old Lyme mansion for one dollar. Platt volunteered to design the gallery, incorporating the shingle style of New England for the exterior, with large, skylit galleries, cove ceilings, and centered arched entrance that echo his national museum designs. On opening day in 1921, the *New York Times* praised the Gallery as "an embodiment of art in harmony with its natural surroundings."

The exhibition culminates a year-long building campaign which to date has raised nearly \$100,000 for improvements and restorations.

"The Platt exhibition will launch the public giving phase of the campaign," states Jamie Murphy, Trustee Chairman of the LAA. "Our goal is to reach \$250,000 by the end of 2006."



*Elected Artist Donna Gilberto's oil painting of "The Dunes of Napatree" will be exhibited in this annual show.*

## Works By LAA Elected Artists In Their Annual Exhibition

This year's Elected Artist annual exhibition features more than 150 works in oil, pastel, watercolor, and sculpture. Exhibition manager **Lisa Horrigan** and her co-chairs **Nancy Pinney** and **Christine Karpinski** are each Elected Artists of the LAA and have planned the exhibition. The show also coincides with the election of this year's new Elected Artists: **Cora Ogden**, **Jack Montmeat**, **Jim Magnor**, **Kim Muller-Thym**, **Bill Hanson**, and **Katherine Simmons**. The exhibition is on view through Dec. 3.

# ANNUAL MEETING NOTES



The Annual Meeting in September provided our members with positive news. The LAA is having a great year in a number of

respects. Our membership has grown over 40% and now exceeds 1200 with 800 artist members - more than ever. Our financial position is strong, owing to the generosity of our volunteers, members, and management of expenses by all.

Another positive sign I heard remarked on is that the work in our shows is getting better and better. It is gratifying to see that one of our longer term goals to improve the quality of the art is beginning to have a ripple affect

on other areas as well. We are garnering more interest from buyers and that is leading to more sales which in turn is creating greater participation on the part of both established and up and coming fine artists. As we enlist the support and involvement of new and renewing artist members, we also engage the interest and support of our benefactors who share in our objectives to develop and deliver good art to the community as we maintain a historic landmark.

Though the transition to more jurying has not been fully embraced by all, we hope that the overall improvements to the stability and quality of our organization will justify the small changes in policy that have been adopted. We are working to balance the use of the Goodman Gallery for special exhibitions that bring in fresh faces and ideas

with the need to maximize the gallery space available to all of our artist members. Sometimes this proves to be a complex experiment where we have to creatively assess the benefits of a particular exhibit to the overall gains to the Association in terms of education, promotion, or sales – just to name a few of the criteria.

I'd like to take this opportunity to remind everyone in our organization that we all have a say in what happens here. Please continue to send in your comments and suggestions. These are very helpful. It is wonderful to be associated with so many talented and creative people. Thank you very much for all your support!

*Rich Nazzaro*  
Vice President, Lyme Art Association



## Annual Fund Supports LAA's Mission

Your generous support of this year's Annual Fund will help the Lyme Art Association continue to be one of America's leading art organizations. Annual membership dues cover only about 10% of the LAA's operating budget. The Annual Fund provides additional funding for staffing, year-round member exhibitions, art education classes, and the Platt Fund building maintenance. Please make your tax-deductible donation to the Annual Fund before December 31, 2005. *Thank you!*

### LAA Bulletin Board

❑ **CT River Film Forum:** The following classic film series is set for 2005-06: *Breathless* (Nov 16 & 17); *Olivier's Hamlet* (Jan 18 & 19); *On The Waterfront* (Feb 15 & 16); *Notorious* (Mar 15 & 16); *Top Hat* (Apr 19 & 20). All showings at 7:30pm, Old Lyme Phoebe Griffin Noyes Library. Admission \$5 for non-members at door.

❑ **Sign Up Now For Winter Art Education Classes:** Improve your skills as an artist, try a new medium, or just have fun! Beginners and advanced will find a full range of painting and drawing courses available in the LAA art studio. Call Anna Swain for your free catalog at (860) 434-7802.

❑ **Christopher Zhang:** Hear this LAA elected artist give a talk Nov. 30 at 6pm – Alexey von Schlippe Gallery of Art, UCONN, Avery Point Campus (860) 405-9052

❑ **Garvin Gallery,** 8 Novelty Lane, Essex, CT presents "Lasting Impressions" oil paintings and ceramics, Oct 21-Dec 4.

❑ **Publicity & Marketing:** LAA looking for volunteer to work on 2006 exhibition program. Contact the office.

❑ **Front Desk Help:** Please call Krissa if you can help a few hours a month to welcome visitors to the LAA.



### Board of Directors 2004 – 2006

President, Jerry Litner  
Vice President, Rich Nazzaro  
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LAA Times is a publication of the Lyme Art Association, a non-profit institution. LAA supports the creation and appreciation of representational art work, the heritage of Old Lyme painters and the preservation of the LAA historic galleries.

### Lyme Art Association

P.O. Box 222, 90 Lyme Street  
Old Lyme, CT 06371  
Tel. 860 434-7802  
Hours: Tues-Sat 10-5, Sun 1-5  
www.LymeArtAssociation.org



## LAA Holds Successful Fall Plein Air Workshop With Top New England Landscape Artists

by Anna Swain, LAA Education Manager



Workshop organizers **Barbara Lussier**, **Anna Swain** (front row left) and **Yves Parent** (back row second from left) join artist instructors **Stapleton Kearns**, **Bob Duffy**, **Anthony Watkins**, **T.A. Charon**, and **Michael Graves** for dinner and laughs.

**M**ore than 50 students from across the U.S. gathered in Old Lyme for a week-long plein air workshop in early September. Painting each day at sites from shoreline to backcountry, they followed in the footsteps of Childe Hassam and other American Impressionists. A highlight of the workshop was a paint-out day at Mystic Seaport which included a boat ride on the historic *Sabino*.

Students also attended evening events at the Florence Griswold Museum, a visit to the Cooley Gallery, and the Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts. On the last night of the



**John C. Traynor** captured the beauty of Mystic Seaport at the plein air workshop.

workshop, students held a “tail-gate” party and attended a preview of “The New England landscape” exhibition.

A key to the success of the workshop was great volunteer support. Artist instructors were selected by **Barbara Lussier** and **Yves Parent**, and daily events were supported by **Mari-lyn Dunphy**, **Anne Holmes**, **Reese Garvin**, **David Luchak**, **Donna Martell**, **Linda Ahnert**, **Polly Murray**, **Angie Falstrom**, and **Nancy Schroeder**.

As one student praised in the workshop questionnaire: “this was one of the best week’s of painting in my life... I would definitely take this workshop again next year, the instructors were excellent and everything was so well planned!”



**Anthony Watkins** gives pointers to a workshop student during a “rainy day” portrait demonstration.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR



**Lyme Art Association  
Presents**

## Christmas In Connecticut

**T**he Lyme Art Association is planning its annual Holiday Art Show featuring more than 200 works by its member artists, affordably priced for giving and collecting. This year the LAA will support the Shoreline Soup Kitchen & Pantries by donating a portion of sales from opening night to their hunger relief organization. The exhibition will be hung “salon style” for artists to exhibit a wide variety of their work.

This year, artists may also pick-up mini canvasses, on a first-come-first served basis, at the LAA office to paint and sell on the LAA Christmas Tree. Other hand-made decorative items are also welcomed including wreaths, ornaments, gift tags, cards, and other holiday items. The opening night reception is on Friday, December 9, from 6- 8 pm with music and refreshments and is open to the public. Receiving Day is Sunday, Dec. 4, 1-5pm.



# EXHIBITIONS & PROGRAMS

## APEC Planning 2006 Exhibition Programs

by Roger Clements, APEC Chairman

APEC, the LAA's Artistic Planning and Exhibition Committee, is well on it's way to finalizing plans for the coming year. Made up of Elected and Associate artists as well as Associate members, many of the members do double duty as members of the Board of Directors. APEC meets monthly to plan and oversee the exhibits program as well as to set and often adjust the artistic policies of the organization.

One of APEC's current challenges is how to most effectively deal with the exciting rate of expansion. As of a recent tally we are up to over 800 artist members.



Here I am 'moonlighting' putting in the new downstairs gallery track lights.

Some of the responsive areas we are looking at and evaluating are: how we can most effectively increase artist exposure and exhibit space, use of the new Downstairs Gallery, experimenting with the use of portable exhibition panels, holding more "Anything Goes" art sales and the most effective use of the Goodman Gallery. APEC is also considering eliminating "guaranteed" works in show in favor of all works being juried.

I want to remind everyone that APEC meetings are open to all LAA members, so feel free to contact me or the office to get on the monthly agenda. With your input, this upcoming year cannot help but be another exciting one for your Association.

## Winter Lecture Series: Landscape and Society From The Late Middle Ages to Post Impressionism



In this three-part lecture series, Robert Baldwin, Professor of Art History, Connecticut College, will look at broad changes in European landscape painting.

Thursday, January 19, 6pm

### Courtly Landscape from the Late Middle Ages to the 18th Century

Landscape art arose in the late middle ages largely out of court culture and was tied to power and pleasure. After 1500, with international exploration and colonization, nature became a courtly empire. In the 18th century, Rococo landscapists like Watteau would abandon images of empire and paint nostalgic dream worlds.

Thursday, February 2, 6pm

**Middle Class Nature from Bruegel to the Dutch Baroque:** Working for wealthy middle class patrons, Bruegel replaced ideas of nature confirming aristocratic power, with a bourgeois universe. After 1609 when the Netherlands emerged as the only middle class republic in Europe, Dutch artists like Cuyp abandoned Bruegel's cosmic worldsapes and embraced more distinctly Dutch landscapes.

Thursday, February 16, 6pm

### 19th Century Landscapes: Romanticism to Post

**Impressionism:** Between 1780 and 1850, grand subjects taken from antiquity and the Bible were replaced by subjects of modern life. From 1815 to 1915, in an age of nationalistic strife and rapid urbanization, landscape emerged as the most important category of European art. Around 1915, the great century of landscape ended as artists embraced abstraction.

Fees For All Three Lectures:

\$60 Member; \$90 nonmembers

Individual Lectures: \$25 Members;  
\$30 nonmembers



Aelbert Cuyp, *The Maas at Dordrecht*, c 1650, National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC



## FACES IN THE NEWS



(Above) **Platt Enthusiasts:** Joining guests of the LAA at a special preview of the Platt Exhibition were **Mary Ann Besier** (left), President of the Florence Griswold Museum, with **Jeff** and **Betsey Cooley**, owners of the Cooley Gallery who loaned original works of art by Charles Platt including examples of his etchings and paintings. Jeff was also on the advisory board for the exhibition providing his expertise on other potential lenders to the show.



(Above) **Building Plans:** Volunteer **Leon Laime** is hard at work creating an A-Z building manual for the Lyme Art Association – how everything works and what to do when it doesn't!



(Left) **Where The Wild Things Are:** Some of the face painted “wild animals” who visited the LAA during the annual Midsummer Festival open house. This popular event attracts thousands of visitors to historic Lyme Street and the many planned art sales and activities hosted by the leading art organizations in Old Lyme.



(Above) **Annual Meeting:** Staff members **Krissa Ressler** and **Anna Swain** welcome **Kyrena Robinson** and **Bonnie Nuzum** to the September annual membership meeting. Board and staff members gave updates on key topics including finance, exhibition programs, art education, and the LAA's many contributions by its volunteers.



(Above) **Platt Preview:** Enjoying the evening festivities were **Jeanne Stewart**, (left) curator of the Platt exhibition and **Joanne Simandl**. Jeanne spent over a year planning this show, working with lenders, securing artwork from museums and private collections, and writing the exhibition catalog. Thanks Jeanne from the LAA and the Old Lyme community!



## Winter Workshops



**Sign Up Today**



Sat- Sun, January 7-8, 9am-4pm

### **Introduction to Oil Painting:**

#### **Monochromatic Studies**

**Karen Winslow, Instructor**

Monochromatic studies is the best and most economical way to be introduced to oils. Students will concentrate on creating solid forms by using a gray scale (white to black) and studying simple still life. Beginners are welcome! *Fees: \$200 Members; \$225 nonmembers*

Sat-Sun, January 21 & 22, 9am-4pm

### **The Head in Light**

**Diane Aeschliman, Instructor**

Beginning with studies of the head in different lighting situations using a grisaille (one color) to acquaint. Students will learn structure and features, and the relationship between areas of light and shadow. The second day focuses on color with attention to skin color. Levels: Intermediate and Advanced. *Fees: \$175 Members \$200 non members .*

Sat-Sun, January 28 & 29, 9am-4pm

### **Beginner Portrait Workshop**

**Jack Broderick, Instructor**

A basic approach to portraiture working with a live model. Basics of light and form used to explore the planes of the face and the use of line in drawing of the human form. Instruction based on the use of charcoal or graphite, and other mediums and color. *Fee: \$200 for Members, \$225 nonmembers*

Sat - Sun, February 4-5, 9-4pm

### **Beginning Oil Painting**

**Karen Winslow, Instructor**

Using still life, the course will emphasize painting in mass, composing in rhythms, and understanding light. The instructor will paint alongside students demonstrating the "how" and "why" of artistic principles. All levels. *Fees: \$200 Member; \$225 nonmembers*



## "Where Art Lives" is Theme of New Art Alliance Promoting The Arts in Historic Old Lyme



*Members of the Old Lyme Art Alliance welcome (center) Jennifer Aniskovich, Exec. Director of the CT Commission On Culture and Tourism and display their new banner. (l-r) Jeff Cooley, Cooley Gallery, Bob Potter, LAA, Jeff Andersen, Tony Thurston, Florence Griswold Museum, and Fred Osborne, Mike Helfgott, Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts.*

In October, the recently formed Old Lyme Art Alliance welcomed Jennifer Aniskovich, Executive Director of the Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism, and to thank her and the Commission for their support of the arts in Old Lyme. The Art Alliance received a grant from the CCCT to create a brochure and banner which promotes "Old Lyme Connecticut - Where Art Lives." The Art Alliance is made-

up of The Florence Griswold Museum, the Lyme Art Association, the Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts, the Cooley Gallery, and is also supported by the Old Lyme Inn and the Bee and Thistle Inn. The members of the Alliance work together to help increase awareness, both locally and nationally, for Old Lyme, its art organizations and their year-round art attractions and events.



**LYME ART ASSOCIATION**

90 Lyme Street  
Old Lyme, CT 06371  
[www.LymeArtAssociation.com](http://www.LymeArtAssociation.com)

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